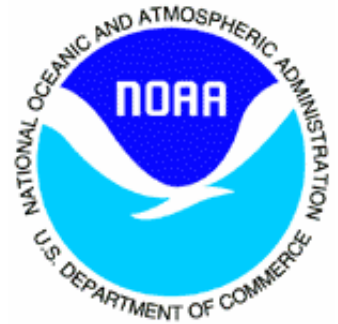




## AMERICAN RIVERS-NOAA COMMUNITY-BASED RESTORATION PROGRAM PARTNERSHIP



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### FUNDING GUIDELINES FOR RIVER RESTORATION GRANTS

American Rivers, through its habitat restoration partnership with the NOAA Community-Based Restoration Program, provides funding for dam removal or fish passage projects to individuals and organizations such as civic associations and conservation groups; state, local and Tribal governments; and other commercial and non-profit organizations. American Rivers and NOAA reserve the right to determine, at their sole discretion, the eligibility of a project for support.

#### *How does my organization apply for funds?*

All potential applicants are encouraged to contact American Rivers prior to submitting an application. Applications are currently being accepted for the first cycle of fiscal year 2006 with a deadline of November 1, 2005. Applications for projects must be postmarked or emailed by the deadline for consideration for the funding cycle. All project grants are non-renewable and may last up to 18 months. We expect to notify applicants about funding by March 1, 2006.

When applying for funds, at a minimum include the following (preferably in electronic format):

- ❖ Cover letter from applicant organization;
- ❖ Completed application with detailed budget;
- ❖ Map with barrier/project indicated;
- ❖ Design Plans (if available); and
- ❖ Letter of concurrence from owner of dam or barrier (if different from applicant).

Supporting documentation such as other maps, photographs, and letters of support are encouraged, but not required. Additional information may be requested before an award is finalized. We strongly encourage you to contact American Rivers to discuss the potential project prior to submitting an application.

#### *What types of projects will be funded by the American Rivers - NOAA Community-Based Restoration Program Partnership?*

The Partnership funds hands-on, action-oriented projects in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, Northwest<sup>1</sup> and California that have clear and identifiable benefits to anadromous fish populations and restoration of riverine habitat that support anadromous species. The two types of acceptable projects include:

1. Fish passage (e.g., dam removal, fish ladders, nature like by-pass channels, culvert removal/retrofit); and

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<sup>1</sup> Northeast- ME, VT, NH, MA, RI, CT, & NY; Mid- Atlantic- PA, NJ, DE, MD, DC, VA; Northwest- OR, WA, & ID

2. Preliminary analysis essential to development of the project (e.g., engineering, design, sediment analysis.) A limited number of proposals submitted under this category will receive funding.

The American Rivers-NOAA Community-Based Restoration Program Partnership will consider inclusion of funds for salaries and/or travel that are directly related to completion of the project as part of a restoration grant. A maximum of 15% of requested funding is eligible for overhead/administrative expenses.

Projects that are requesting funding to maintain an existing fish passage structure are not eligible for funding from the American Rivers-NOAA Community-Based Restoration Program Partnership. Additionally, these funds are project based and are not eligible for general organizational support or campaign funding.

A regional river restoration steering committee, comprised of staff from American Rivers and the NOAA Community-Based Restoration Program, as well as select regional representatives, will evaluate each proposal and make recommendations. American Rivers will consult with NOAA staff to make a final decision on funding and will notify applicants once a decision has been made.

We expect the average restoration grant to fall within the range of \$5,000 to \$25,000<sup>2</sup>. Proposals can be part of a larger restoration project funded through additional sources; however, organizations receiving awards must be able to demonstrate achievement of stated project objectives within the 18-month time frame of the grant.

Although a formal 1:1 federal:non-federal match is not required, such matching funds greatly enhance the merit of the application and are strongly encouraged.

### *How do I contact American Rivers?*

Potential applicants with specific questions about the application process are encouraged go to our web site **[www.americanrivers.org](http://www.americanrivers.org)**. If the information cannot be found on the web site, please contact:

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Suite 720  
Washington, DC 20005  
Tel: (202) 347-7550 x3004  
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<sup>2</sup> We may consider funding as much as \$50,000 per project; however, strong justification will be needed to support higher than average funding requests.